

I understand you have extended the deadline for telemarketing comments. Here's mine and thank you for allowing me to participate. I believe I may have new ground here to justify the mission to ban telemarketer calls.

I own a home-based business (dog training) and have but one phone line. The phone is the front line of contact and is the first impression a caller has of me and my services.

Telemarketers call often and tie up valuable phone availability for consumers. I don't even use this phone for personal calls. When I answer the phone and it's a telemarketer, they do not graciously accept "no" which, consequently, causes me to be rude. This, then, sets a tone that is not conducive to speaking to business callers, which I believe has a bearing on the amount of business that actually transpires and, in turn, the success of my business. My business is a service that consumers seek but certainly are not limited to mine. I'm suggesting I might realize some amount of increase in business were it not for having to answer telemarketer callers.

Additionally, telemarketing presents an easy way to target people who stay at home. Many of these people are on limited incomes (disability, welfare, retirement) and who may be gullible, can't say no, or may not even be coherent enough to understand what they are getting into. Someday soon I may be in this category as well. These types fall prey to scam artists.

Thank you. I certainly hope telemarketing can be dissolved. I can't believe there's ANYONE who enjoys being contacted in this way.